Allocation for Ganga Action Plan

384. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an excess sum amounting to crores of rupees has been spent for Ganga Action Plan than the allocated amount whereas 81 projects are still pending;

(b) if so, the reasons for the pendency;

(c) by when the works are likely to be completed and the cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No Sir. The total expenditure incurred on Ganga Action Plan Phase I works as on 31.10.95 was Rs. 407.69 crores. This is well within the costs of Rs. 445.29 crores approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). Out of the 261 sanctioned schemes, 243 have been completed as on 31st October, 1995.

(b) Inadequate experience of the implementing agencies, contractual disputes, litigations and encroachments have been some of the reasons for slow progress.

(c) While, according to the time frame the remaining 18 schemes are to be completed by the end of 1995-96, 5 schemes are likely to spill over to 1996-97. However, the costs would not exceed CCEA approved costs by more than 10%.

Pak attempt to seek NAM Intervention for Kashmir issue

385. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan again made an attempt to seek NAM's mediation or intervention for resolution of the Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, what was the Pakistani plea and what was the Indian response thereto; and

(c) what was the consensus reached on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) Pakistani efforts to include reference to J&K issue in the Final Document adopted by the 11th NAM Summit at Cartagena, Colombia did not succeed. Pakistan also suggested establishment of a dispute settlement mechanism among NAM countries. Since there was no consensus, the Non-aligned Coordinating Bureau has been asked to further study the question on the basis of the positions expressed at the Summit. India has consistently maintained that the Movement should focus attention on global issues which united the Movement rather than bring in contentious issues which are best resolved bilaterally.

Incident of Bomb Blasts in Delhi

386. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some bomb blasts took place near Red Fort and other places in Delhi on the 25th and 26th of September, 1995;

(b) if so, details of the same and the injuries caused by these blasts to the people nearby; and

(c) the results of investigations made into the cause of these incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. MEIJINLUNG KAMSON): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two bomb blasts took place on 25.9.95 in front of Red Fort and at the Chhatta Rail respectively in Delhi, Another explosion occurred on 26.9.95 at the railway crossing in Badli village, Delhi.

In these incidents 51 persons sustained injuries. The details of the bomb blasts are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below)